

Cambridge Housing Authority Celebrates the Completion of Temple Place Apartments

Cambridge, MA. – March 23, 2016... On Wednesday, March 30, 2016, Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) will present the recently completed Temple Place Apartments in Cambridge, Massachusetts. A ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration for the new residents and Cambridge Housing Authority partners will take place at Hannum Hall at the adjacent YWCA Cambridge building. Speakers will include officials from Congress, the City of Cambridge, State Officials, as well as other political, financial and development partners.

This long-awaited development embodies the commitment of the CHA, the City of Cambridge, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to create new, deeply affordable housing opportunities within high-cost market areas. Given the development's location steps from the Central Square Red-line stop, Temple Place represents the fulfillment of an effort to include high-quality, energy-efficient rental housing for a segment of the Cambridge population that has been locked out of many of the new housing developments within the City.

CHA joined with the following partners to make this renovation possible:

- City of Cambridge
- Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust
- YWCA Cambridge
- Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development
- US Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Federal Home Loan Bank Boston
- East Cambridge Savings Bank
- RBC Tax Credit Equity Group & Capital Markets
- HMFH Architects, Inc.
- Nauset Construction Corporation
- Nixon Peabody LLP
- Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee
- Alliance of Cambridge Tenants

“The completion of Temple Place Apartments exemplifies the resolve of the Cambridge Housing Authority to create new housing opportunities for the households we serve and exemplifies the strength of the partnership with the City of Cambridge whose patience and support helped ensure that the vision for housing at the former YWCA Cambridge pool site would become a reality. Temple Place Apartments stands in testimony to the commitment in Cambridge to build affordable housing regardless of the many obstacles that must be

addressed” said Gregory Russ, Executive Director of the Cambridge Housing Authority. “We are extremely grateful for the tremendous efforts made by our project partners that have been with us in this quest that began nearly a decade ago. Among those long-term partners are the team at HMFH Architects, Inc. in Cambridge and the YWCA Cambridge.” Russ added.

The new 40-unit apartment building will provide 15-one bedroom apartments and 25 two-bedroom apartments for extremely low-income households who would otherwise find it impossible to live in the high- priced Cambridge rental market. Included among the 40 apartments are four units equipped with special accessibility features. The building provides five stories of residential apartments serviced by an elevator.

The residential portion of the building sits atop a parking garage that provides 18 spaces of automobile parking, along with 24 spaces for bike parking, a common laundry room, a property management office, utility rooms, maintenance storage space, along with an attractive and welcoming lobby area. The units themselves range in size from 662 square feet to 870 square feet and feature bamboo flooring, high ceilings, and large, energy efficient window systems. The kitchens feature extensive cabinet and counter space and the tiled bathrooms include spacious cabinet and vanity space designed to provide residents with a high quality, easy to maintain apartments.

The exterior of the building is striking with its contrasting pattern of colors made up of easily maintained fiber-cement siding. The landscaping provides an almost seamless connection to the adjacent YWCA Cambridge building with attractive pathways that lead residents and their visitors to an entrance that features a welcoming pineapple etching on the glass doorways.

Temple Place Apartments was designed in compliance with the Green Communities Program and includes many energy efficient components. The building was constructed with a wide variety of construction techniques all aimed at creating a high efficiency building that will help reduce the operating costs for the property well into the future.

About Cambridge Housing Authority: Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) is a national leader in the development, management and administration of subsidized affordable housing for low-income elderly, family, and disabled households. Established under state law on December 9, 1935, by the City of Cambridge, CHA’s mission is to develop and manage safe, good quality, affordable housing for low-income individuals and families in a manner which promotes citizenship, community and self-reliance.